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SEC

SERVICE DATE - LATE RELEASE OCTOBER 20, 2000

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Ex Parte No. 634

CONSOLIDATED RAILROAD REPORTING

Decided: October 20, 2000

In a decision served September 25, 2000 the Board requested comments, by October 25, 2000, on its proposal to adopt consolidated financial reporting by commonly controlled U. S. railroads and their U.S. railroad-related affiliates in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statement No. 94.

In a petition filed October 16, 2000, The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) seeks a 30-day extension of the comment due date. ASLRRA, which represents the interest of 418 short line and regional railroads, states that it needs additional time to solicit input from its membership because the proposed reporting requirements, if adopted, would have far-reaching impact and could cause a significant increase in the burden on small railroad companies. ASLRRA states that many of its member railroads are still trying to assess the potential impact of the proposed change and have expressed concern that the October 25th due date for filling comments is not sufficient to allow full consideration and preparation of comprehensive comments. ASLRRA is also concerned that several member railroads may not yet realize how this proposal could affect them.

Because ASLRRA has presented good cause, its request for an extension of time will be granted. The due date for comments will be extended for other parties wishing to participate as well.

It is ordered:

1. The request for a 30-day extension of time to submit comments in this proceeding is granted. The due date for comments in this proceeding is now set at November 27, 2000.
2. This decision is effective on the date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary